GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1361
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
MEETING OF CENTRAL AND STATE STATISTICAL ORGANISATIONS
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Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has convened a meeting of the Central and the State Statistical Organisations;

(b) if so, the details of issues on which deliberations have been held ;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to strengthen the statistical system in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

(a) Yes, Sir. The 14th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organisations (COCSSO) was organized during 10-11 April 2007 at New Delhi.

(b) The two-day programme of the Conference included discussions on:

(i) Strengthening of State Statistical Bureaus including Core Statistics and role of Statistical Advisers;

(ii) Basic Statistics for Local level Development; and

(iii) Problems in Horticulture Statistics. Besides these three core subjects, the processing of State Sample Data of National Sample Surveys; and standardized set of statistical products/publications for the States were also discussed.

(c) & (d) The following steps have been taken to strengthen the statistical system in the country:-

i) A Bill to replace the Collection of Statistics Act, 1953 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha to facilitate better collection of primary statistics;

ii) National Statistical System is also mandated to evolve national strategies for the collection, tabulation and dissemination of core statistics; and

iii) The Ministry has initiated a project aimed at strengthening the State Statistical System as part of India Statistical Strengthening Project in the 10th Plan and Phase-II of the project is continuing in the 11th Plan.